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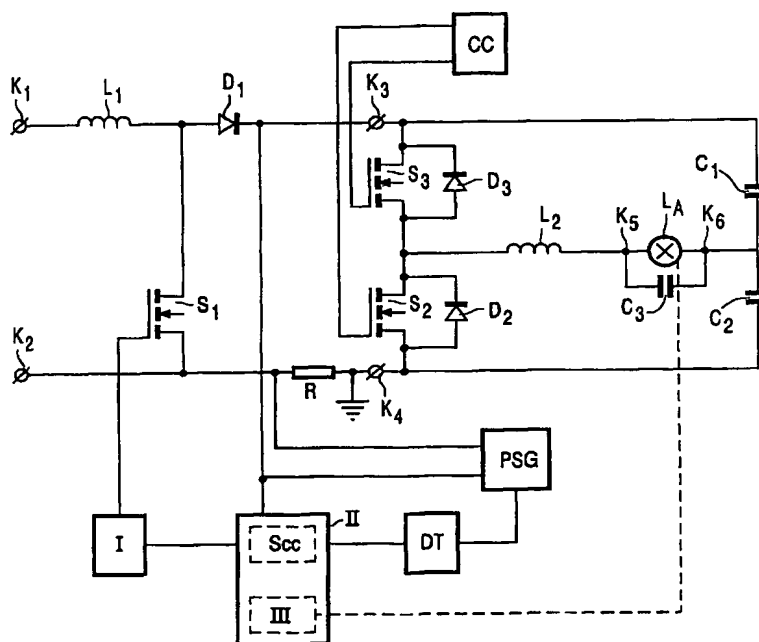
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**(54) Title:** CIRCUIT ARRANGEMENT



**(57) Abstract:** In a ballast circuit for supplying a high pressure discharge lamp and comprising an up-converter and a bridge circuit, the output voltage of the up-converter is controlled at a higher level immediately after the ignition of the lamp and at a lower level during stationary operation. Stabilization of the discharge immediately after ignition of the lamp and a relatively small power dissipation are both realized in this ballast circuit.

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